8/1/88 S3465-2

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR
20 Union Street Augusta, Maine 04330
(207) 289-2271

BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
Division of Economic Analysis and Research

LABOR MARKET DIGEST

May 1988

The Labor Market Information Newsletter on Maine Economic Activity

BABY BOOM, BUST, AND BOOMLET

Changes in Maine's population are governed to a large extent by birthrate cycles which have become known as the baby boom, from 1946 to 1964; the baby bust, from 1965 to 1976; and the baby boomlet, which started in 1977. Although births have increased since 1977, the accompanying graph demonstrates that recent births in Maine have not begun to approach the baby boom level, and are higher only in comparison to the late baby bust period.

The previous cycles of baby boom and baby bust produced many changes in society. Baby boomers, who are now 24 to 42 years old, have endured crowded classrooms and faced intense competition for jobs. Baby boomers also have had a significant social and economic impact, as the large number of these individuals magnified their influence.

The baby bust age group, aged 12 to 23, has had a very different experience as it passed through the school system, and then entered the labor force starting in 1981. Current labor shortages in many areas are in part the result of the smaller number of young people available for entry-level jobs. This has put the members of the baby bust group at a relative advantage in seeking employment. Many observers have noted that this age group has had a less dramatic impact on social and economic institutions than the baby boomers, partially due to their lower numbers.

Some projected population developments in Maine and the nation are:

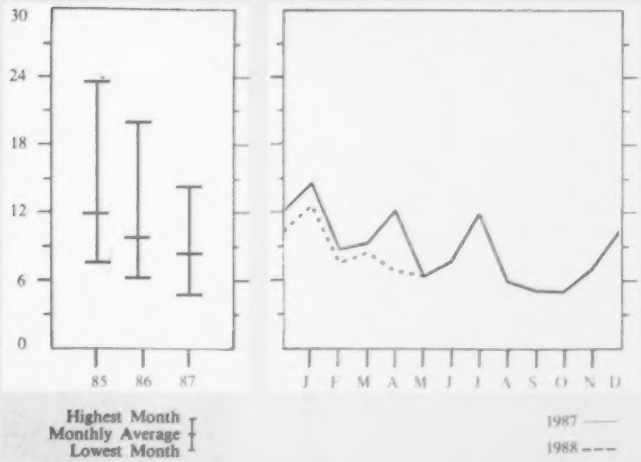
- The Census Bureau projects that births may peak this year, then begin a gradual decline through the rest of the century.
- The number of teenagers will hit a low in the late 1980s.
- In the early 1990s the number of teenagers will begin to rise again as the boomlet enters this age group.
- The number of 18 to 24 year olds will hit a low point in the mid 1990s, after which the first of the boomlet will begin to show.

For more information, please contact the Maine Department of Labor, Bureau of Employment Security, Division of Economic Analysis and Research, 20 Union Street, Augusta, ME 04330, telephone (207)289-2271.

See related graph on page 2

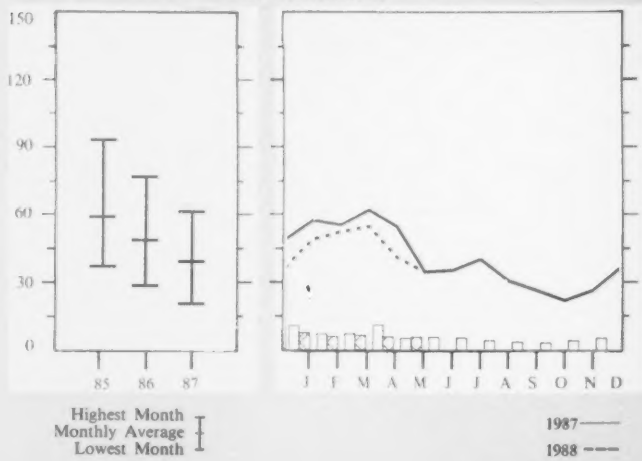
UI Initial Claims

in Thousands

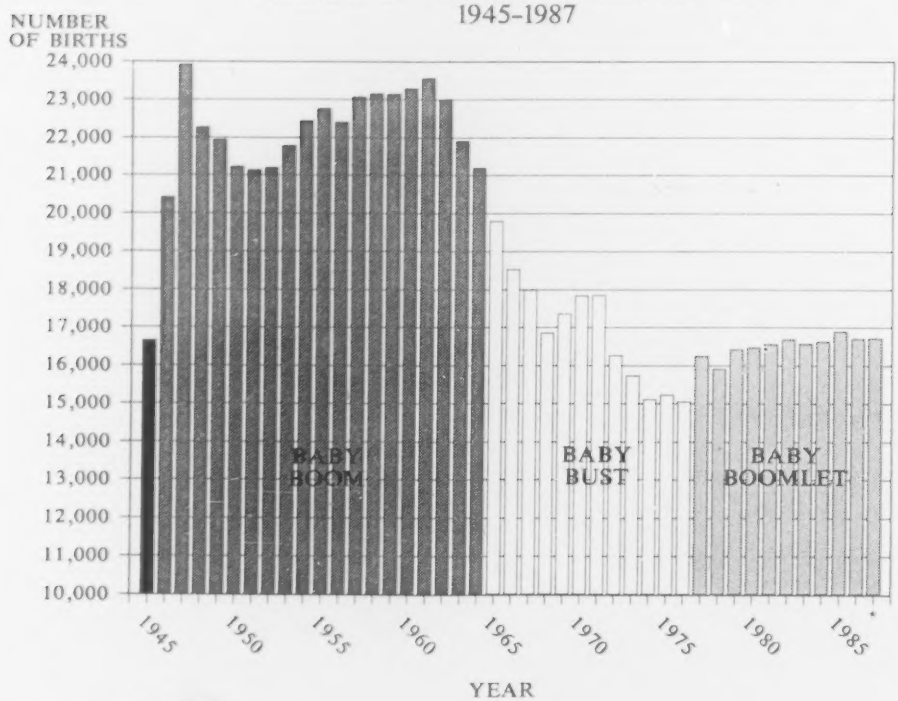


UI Intrastate Weeks Claimed

in Thousands



Number of Births in Maine Per Year 1945-1987

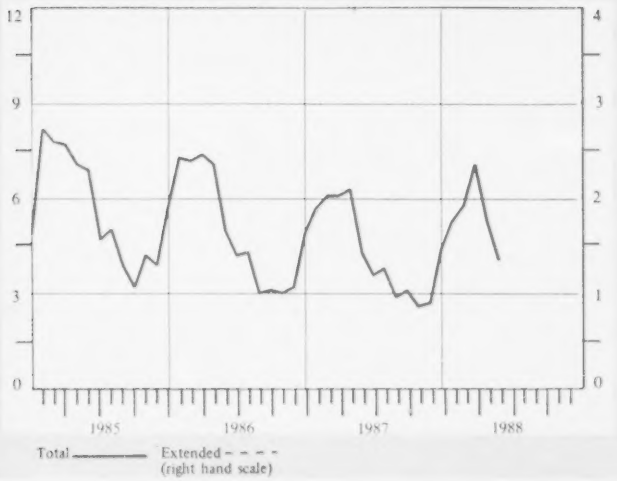


* 1987 Preliminary

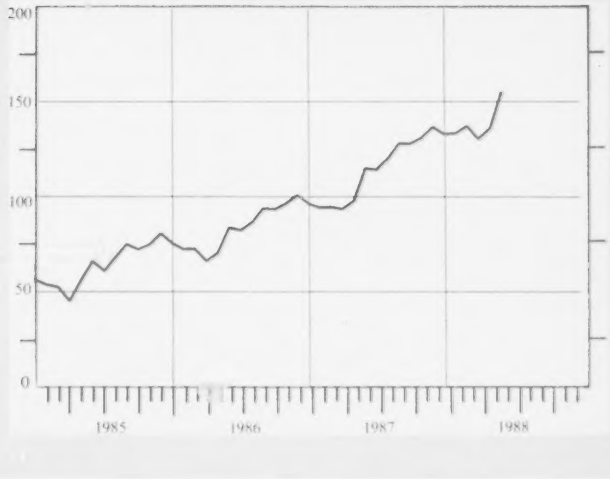
SOURCE: Department of Human Services, Office of Data, Research and Vital Statistics, Maine Vital Statistics, 1986.

Selected Employment Security Activities

UI Benefit Payments
in Millions
(Total Includes Maine's Portion of Extended Benefits)



Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance in Millions
(End of Month)



Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work
in Thousands

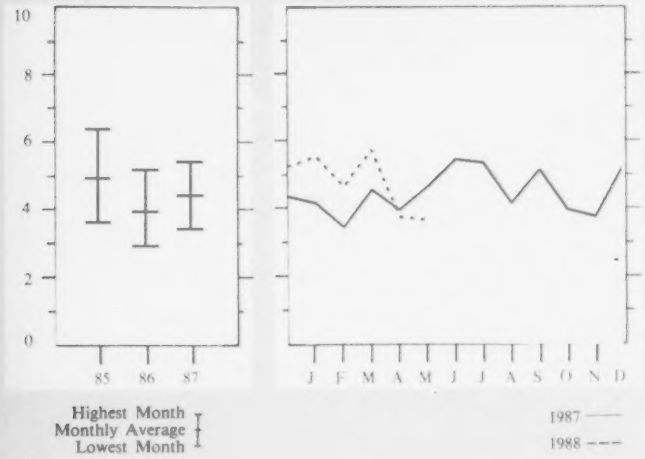
ITEM	STATEWIDE This Month	STATEWIDE Last Month	STATEWIDE Year Ago	PORTLAND MSA This Month	PORTLAND MSA Last Month	PORTLAND MSA Year Ago	LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA This Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA Last Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment 1/	520.6	513.1	497.6	126.0	125.5	120.9	40.6	40.1	39.5
Total Manufacturing	105.8	104.7	102.1	16.5	16.6	15.4	10.6	10.5	10.2
Durable Goods	49.3	48.4	45.8	8.3	8.4	7.1	2.9	2.8	2.8
Lumber and Wood Products	11.9	11.4	12.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.3
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.5	3.5	3.5	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.8
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	4.7	4.6	4.3	2.3	2.3	2.1	0.2	0.2	0.3
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment	11.7	11.6	10.1	3.3	3.3	3.2	0.8	0.8	0.7
Transportation Equipment 2/	12.5	12.3	10.8	(d)	(d)	(d)	0.2	0.2	0.2
Other Durable Goods 3	5.0	5.0	4.5	1.4	1.3	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5
Nondurable Goods	56.5	56.3	56.3	8.2	8.2	8.3	7.7	7.7	7.4
Food and Kindred Products	7.1	7.2	7.4	2.0	2.0	2.1	0.9	0.9	0.9
Textile Mill Products	6.7	6.7	7.0	(d)	(d)	(d)	1.2	1.3	1.2
Apparel and Other Textile Products	3.1	3.1	3.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Paper and Allied Products	17.3	17.1	16.9	(d)	(d)	(d)	0.6	0.6	0.5
Printing and Publishing	5.4	5.4	5.2	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.7	0.7	0.6
Rubber and Misc. Plastic Products	3.8	3.8	3.6	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.8	1.8	1.7
Leather and Leather Products	11.9	11.9	12.0	1.5	1.5	1.4	2.3	2.2	2.2
Footwear (except Rubber)	9.9	9.9	10.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.8	1.8	1.8
Other Nondurable Goods 4	1.2	1.1	1.2	2.7	2.7	2.8	0.1	0.1	0.2
Total Nonmanufacturing	414.8	408.4	395.5	109.5	108.9	105.4	30.0	29.6	29.3
Construction and Mining	34.7	31.5	32.1	9.4	9.1	8.9	2.4	2.2	2.2
Building Construction	12.4	11.4	11.8	2.7	2.6	2.6	0.5	0.5	0.5
Special Trades Contractor	16.2	14.8	14.5	5.1	5.0	4.5	1.8	1.6	1.6
Transportation and Public Utilities	20.9	20.7	20.5	6.0	5.9	5.9	1.4	1.4	1.4
Wholesale Trade	24.7	24.7	23.6	9.9	9.8	9.4	2.0	2.0	2.0
Retail Trade	106.2	103.1	98.8	26.0	25.6	26.0	7.8	7.6	7.6
Food Stores	19.9	19.6	18.7	4.4	4.3	4.2	1.5	1.5	1.4
Eating and Drinking Places	34.8	32.1	30.8	7.8	7.5	7.8	2.5	2.4	2.3
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	25.3	25.2	24.8	12.8	12.6	12.1	2.3	2.3	2.2
Banking	9.0	8.9	8.6	3.1	3.1	2.9	0.9	0.9	0.8
Insurance Carriers, Brokers and Agents	10.0	10.0	10.0	6.0	5.9	5.4	0.7	0.7	0.6
Services	112.3	110.4	106.6	30.3	30.1	28.2	10.2	10.1	10.0
Hotels and Other Lodging Places	8.5	7.2	8.4	2.5	2.5	1.7	0.4	0.4	0.3
Business Services	12.0	11.6	11.7	5.2	5.0	4.6	1.0	1.0	0.9
Health Services	42.3	42.3	40.1	10.1	10.1	9.7	4.1	4.0	4.1
Federal Government	18.5	18.4	18.2	2.0	2.0	1.9	0.3	0.3	0.3
State and Local Government 5/	72.2	74.4	70.9	13.1	13.8	13.0	3.6	3.7	3.6
Involved in Labor-Management Disputes	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

1/ Employment figures relate to full- and part-time wage and salary workers in pay periods including the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. 2/ Transportation equipment and instruments are combined in the Lewiston series. 3/ Includes Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes: Statewide - 25, 32, 38, 39; Portland - 25, 32, 37, 38, 39; Lewiston - 25, 32, 39. 4/ Includes SIC codes: Statewide - 28, 29; Portland - 22, 26, 28, 29; Lewiston - 28, 29. 5/ Regular teachers are included in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months. n/a - data not available in sufficient detail for publication. *Less than 50. (d) Nondisclosure item.

THESE DATA ARE DEVELOPED BY THE MAINE BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

New Applications For Work

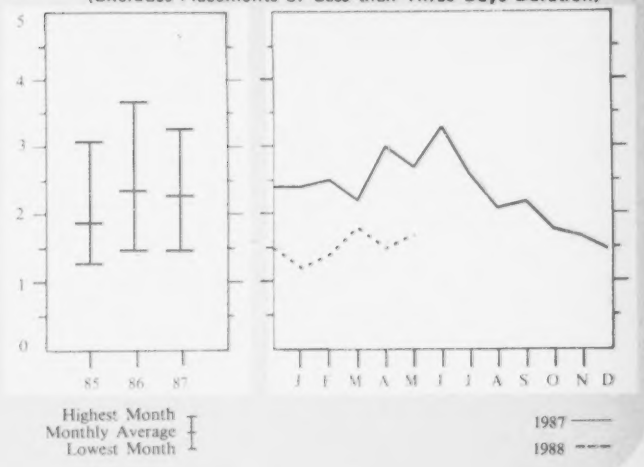
in Thousands



Nonfarm Placements

in Thousands

(Excludes Placements of Less than Three Days Duration)



Earnings and Workweek of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	1987	1986	1985
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	$369.74	$359.56	$361.50	40.9	40.4	41.6	$9.04	$8.90	$8.69	$8.77	$8.65	$8.40
Durable Goods	342.79	341.12	350.06	41.4	41.6	42.9	8.28	8.20	8.16	8.32	8.52	8.46
Lumber and Wood Products	321.12	319.58	311.41	40.7	40.3	42.6	7.89	7.93	7.31	7.82	7.74	8.06
Primary and Fabricated Metals	387.18	385.44	367.65	44.3	43.9	42.8	8.74	8.78	8.59	8.94	8.58	8.25
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	418.17	422.99	402.32	47.9	48.9	43.4	8.73	8.65	9.27	9.20	9.62	9.11
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment	332.37	344.03	325.19	39.9	41.4	40.7	8.33	8.31	7.99	8.03	7.94	7.57
Other Durable Goods	338.64	325.22	384.42	40.8	40.4	44.7	8.30	8.05	8.60	8.60	9.41	9.50
Nondurable Goods	393.09	375.71	371.08	40.4	39.3	40.6	9.73	9.56	9.14	9.18	8.76	8.31
Food and Kindred Products	286.81	263.49	264.25	37.2	35.8	36.1	7.71	7.36	7.32	7.16	7.00	6.63
Textile Mill Products	301.38	300.92	296.12	40.4	40.5	41.3	7.46	7.43	7.17	7.35	7.04	6.64
Apparel and Other Textile Products	221.76	223.30	218.58	35.2	35.9	37.3	6.30	6.22	5.86	5.92	5.73	5.83
Paper and Allied Products	646.24	607.50	601.61	45.8	43.3	45.2	14.11	14.03	13.31	13.43	12.70	12.25
Leather and Leather Products	248.50	242.72	237.89	37.2	37.0	37.7	6.68	6.56	6.31	6.34	6.05	5.93
Other Nondurable Goods	338.45	326.42	339.36	39.4	38.0	40.4	8.59	8.59	8.40	8.28	8.00	7.51
PORTLAND MSA												
Manufacturing	394.15	380.55	371.79	41.1	40.7	40.5	9.59	9.35	9.18	9.13	9.17	8.90
LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA												
Manufacturing	330.76	317.95	294.19	41.5	40.4	40.3	7.97	7.87	7.30	7.40	7.19	6.78

Female Labor Force in Maine

in Thousands

ITEM	This Month 1/	Last Month 1/	Year Ago 2/
Labor Force	260.3	259.6	256.7
Unemployed	10.1	10.4	12.7
(Percent)	3.9%	4.0%	4.9%
Resident Employed	250.2	249.2	244.0

U.S. Consumer Price Index

BASE PERIOD	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	Last Dec.
(1982-1984 = 100) All Items (CPI-U)	117.5	117.1	113.1	115.4

Percent Change for Past Month	+0.3%
Percent Change from Last December	+1.8%
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago	+3.9%

1/ Preliminary estimates 2/ Revised

Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment

in Thousands

AREA 1/	LABOR FORCE 2/			RESIDENT EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT Number			UNEMPLOYMENT Percent of Labor Force		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
MAINE-Statewide	587.8	591.3	582.2	565.3	565.4	557.3	22.5	25.9	24.9	3.8	4.4	4.3
MAJOR LABOR MARKETS												
Bangor MSA	40,900	42,500	41,800	39,800	41,000	40,000	1,100	1,500	1,800	2.7	3.5	4.3
Lewiston-Auburn MSA	41,000	41,400	41,700	39,400	39,600	39,500	1,600	1,800	2,200	3.9	4.3	5.3
Portland MSA	123,700	125,000	122,100	121,100	122,500	119,300	2,600	2,500	2,800	2.1	2.0	2.3
Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA 3/	n/a	132,600	130,800	n/a	130,600	128,000	n/a	2,000	2,800	n/a	1.5	2.1
OTHER LABOR MARKETS												
Augusta	33,420	34,220	33,460	32,380	32,780	31,910	1,040	1,440	1,550	3.1	4.2	4.6
Bath-Brunswick	28,940	29,050	27,900	28,210	28,300	26,800	730	750	1,100	2.5	2.6	3.9
Belfast	11,530	11,710	11,700	10,560	10,490	11,040	970	1,220	660	8.4	10.4	5.6
Biddeford	27,830	27,250	26,870	27,160	26,440	25,970	670	810	900	2.4	3.0	3.3
Boothbay Harbor-Wiscasset	14,690	14,310	14,270	14,370	13,930	13,910	320	380	360	2.2	2.7	2.5
Calais-Eastport	14,680	14,510	13,620	12,980	12,710	12,120	1,700	1,800	1,500	11.6	12.4	11.0
Caribou-Presque Isle	21,550	21,530	21,220	20,070	19,780	19,630	1,480	1,750	1,590	6.9	8.1	7.5
Central Penobscot	2,750	2,640	2,660	2,640	2,490	2,490	110	160	170	4.0	6.1	6.4
Dover-Foxcroft	6,740	6,600	6,830	6,470	6,290	6,490	270	310	340	4.0	4.7	5.0
Ellsworth	23,050	22,250	22,380	21,800	21,070	21,310	1,250	1,180	1,070	5.4	5.3	4.8
Farmington	12,170	12,610	12,060	11,500	11,840	11,340	670	770	720	5.5	6.1	6.0
Fort Kent-Allagash	4,760	4,750	4,810	4,080	4,130	4,140	680	620	670	14.3	13.1	13.9
Greenville	1,190	1,120	1,220	1,100	1,010	1,150	90	110	70	7.6	9.8	5.7
Houlton	6,220	6,170	6,280	5,800	5,750	5,900	420	420	380	6.8	6.8	6.1
Kittery-York 3/	29,670	29,580	29,220	29,400	29,230	28,920	270	350	300	0.9	1.2	1.0
Lincoln-Howland	5,510	5,590	5,440	5,210	5,070	5,140	300	520	300	5.4	9.3	5.5
Livermore Falls	4,220	4,060	4,380	4,000	3,810	4,170	220	250	210	5.2	6.2	4.8
Madawaska-Van Buren	3,940	3,950	3,770	3,530	3,510	3,390	410	440	380	10.4	11.1	10.1
Millinocket-East Millinocket	3,890	3,960	4,200	3,710	3,710	3,940	180	250	260	4.6	6.3	6.2
Norway-Paris	12,300	12,430	11,650	11,910	11,950	11,170	390	480	480	3.2	3.9	4.1
Patten-Island Falls	2,450	2,270	2,440	2,180	2,030	2,210	270	240	230	11.0	10.6	9.4
Rockland	18,600	18,300	18,050	17,880	17,620	17,480	720	680	570	3.9	3.7	3.2
Rumford	8,290	8,680	8,330	7,660	7,920	7,800	630	760	530	7.6	8.8	6.4
Sanford	16,470	16,590	15,680	15,960	16,040	15,180	510	550	500	3.1	3.3	3.2
Sebago Lakes Region	11,360	11,220	11,670	11,030	10,900	11,310	330	320	360	2.9	2.9	3.1
Skowhegan	22,210	22,770	22,370	20,920	21,030	21,120	1,290	1,740	1,250	5.8	7.6	5.6
Southwest Penobscot	10,220	10,460	10,660	9,760	9,770	9,930	460	690	730	4.5	6.6	6.8
Waterville	23,520	23,940	23,480	22,720	22,720	22,530	800	1,220	950	3.4	5.1	4.0
OTHER NEW ENGLAND STATES												
Connecticut	n/a	1,705.6	1,752.6	n/a	1,662.2	1,697.3	n/a	43.4	55.4	n/a	2.5	3.2
Massachusetts	3,106.0	3,135.4	3,062.8	3,022.0	3,043.8	2,959.6	84.0	91.6	103.3	2.7	2.9	3.4
New Hampshire	n/a	602.0	584.2	n/a	588.2	569.4	n/a	13.8	14.8	n/a	2.3	2.5
Rhode Island	524.7	524.4	522.8	510.3	506.8	502.8	14.4	17.6	20.0	2.7	3.4	3.8
Vermont	295.1	298.4	292.5	287.2	288.2	282.0	7.9	10.2	10.5	2.7	3.4	3.6
NEW ENGLAND STATES	n/a	6,857.1	6,797.3	n/a	6,654.6	6,568.4	n/a	202.5	228.9	n/a	3.0	3.4
UNITED STATES 4/	120,775	120,264	119,695	114,222	113,905	112,377	6,553	6,359	7,318	5.4	5.3	6.1

MSA-Metropolitan Statistical Area

Note

n/a indicates that the information was not available at the time of printing.
Employment and unemployment may not add to labor force due to rounding.

Footnotes

1/ Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all areas not seasonally adjusted. Estimates made independently for each labor market area have been benchmarked to and extrapolated from the Current Population Survey estimates for the state. All data adjusted to place of residence basis. Excludes members of the Armed Forces.

2/ Current and last month figures preliminary; year ago figures revised.

3/ Kittery-York is the eight-town Maine portion of the Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA which includes towns in both Maine and New Hampshire.

4/ National estimates based on a sample of household visits; state estimates based on enlargements of employment figures reported.

THESE DATA ARE DEVELOPED BY THE MAINE BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

Mid-Month Insured Unemployment (Less Partials)

ITEM	STATEWIDE			PORTLAND MSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Number of Continued-Week Claimants	6,311	8,654	6,786	649	717	746	515	614	684
Insured Unemployment Rate *	1.3	1.7	1.4	0.6	0.6	0.7	1.4	1.7	1.9

* Should not be confused with insured unemployment rates as defined in the Employment Security Law.

Selected Characteristics Of Unemployment Insurance Claimants

REGULAR PROGRAM

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY OCCUPATION

CATEGORY	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Professional, Technical, and Managerial	8.9	7.7	8.7
Clerical and Sales	15.1	13.3	17.1
Service	9.1	9.0	9.6
Agricultural, Fishery, Forestry, and Related	6.9	5.9	4.4
Processing	7.8	6.4	4.9
Machine Trades	8.7	9.2	10.3
Benchwork	7.1	6.5	15.1
Structural Work	18.3	23.8	14.6
Miscellaneous	18.1	18.2	15.3

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY AGE

CATEGORY	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Total under 40	56.2	57.5	56.0
Under 22	4.3	4.1	4.3
22-24	7.8	8.5	8.0
25-34	31.5	32.2	31.0
35-39	12.6	12.7	12.7
Total 40 and Over	43.8	42.5	44.0
40-44	10.9	10.7	10.4
45-54	16.5	16.3	15.9
55-64	12.3	11.8	12.7
65 and Over	4.1	3.7	5.0

The Bureau of Employment Security is affiliated with the U.S. Employment and Training Administration and is a Federal-State Statistical Program Cooperative Representative of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
Division of Economic Analysis and Research

U.S. MAIL
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May 1988

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ATTN: CHERYL WALDMAN
4520 EAST-WEST HIGHWAY
BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20814

MAINE JOB SERVICE

"For Qualified Workers Contact Your Local Bureau of Employment Security Job Service Office"

Labor Market Information Services